February 2005

Promotions Branch Newsletter

"Supporting those who Serve"

Promotions Branch Newsletter

LTC Jeff Boyer, Branch Chief

As the "not so new" Branch Chief it's been rewarding to see our dedicated staff work Soldier and Army actions and initiatives. Supporting Soldiers and Commanders in a responsive, coordinated manner only happens through cooperation with Officer and Enlisted Personnel Directorates, the DA Secretariat and Army G1 office. Your feedback on how to improve systems and support allow us set "War fighters" (those forward deployed and those in support) up for success.

As the Army transforms our promotions system must remain proactive to ensure readiness, support field commanders' needs, and maintain Soldier morale. Policy is the foundation and an updated Officer Promotions Regulation should be fielded in March 2005. The new Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions Regulation (Flags) was published in December 2004. The initial integration of our Promotions regulations with the reserve components' is nearly completed and begins to address issues on a "Whole Army" concept that supports an expeditionary mindset.

Rest assured that policy makers and systems experts are working hard to ensure future systems under the

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Kudos to MAJ Jenkins and SGM Coon and their professional staffs' for allowing the Army to remain "Relevant and Ready" by screening and publishing numerous Officer lists and all three Senior NCO lists last quarter. Semi-Centralized exceptions to policy remain high, however a 78% approval rate support SGT/SSG promotions as we build the foundation of our future leaders. SGM Coon will provide details on the Automated DA 3355, Promotions Point Worksheet, but it's vital that leaders and personnel support centers leverage this new capability.

Officer promotions process hundreds of monthly orders and your field level input and coordination with us remains vital. As with any large, complex data base system, your accurate and timely field level inputs on Flags, date of rank adjustments, etc. are what drive our "top of the system" monthly cycle and are vital to supporting your "Commanders intent" when making promotion decisions.

Our Branch is involved with the Personnel Services Delivery Redesign test of the 101st (AA) Division BCTs and helped train and develop support systems for the 42d Div (NY ARNG) multi-component deployment. These

February 2005

Enlisted Promotions Section

Top Five Inquiries this QTR

SGM Tammy D. Coon

1. Are you going to come up with a new promotion system?

I continue to receive requests that express concern about the current promotion system, specifically for semi-centralized. We are committed to providing the most equitable system that identifies those truly deserving of promotion. Until changes can be formulated and implemented as needed, leaders at all levels are urged to counsel Soldiers continually on how to be or remain competitive in their current primary military occupational specialty; or if a Soldier must reclassify to avoid stagnation.

2. Have you seen anything on promotion list integration?

Although not yet effective, Senior leader discussions and Army-wide staffing have looked at this semi-centralized promotion issues. If implemented, Soldiers in the grade of E-4, with 48 months TIS and 12 months TIG, who have not been boarded, but are otherwise eligible for promotion, will be automatically integrated on the promotion standing list with a score of 350 points. Commands will have the opportunity to disapprove a promotion prior to execution. The only way a Soldier can add points will be accomplished through actual board appearance. Keep on the look out for the MILPER

I have found that through my visits with the field, some Soldiers did not realize the next SFC board isn't until Feb 06. It is important to periodically check the Enlisted Promotions website. Currently, all upcoming scheduled boards are listed. In regard to how to prepare, I urge every Soldier in zones of consideration for senior promotions or those desiring to prepare for future boards, to go to HRC-Indianapolis' website and activate the hyperlink to on line briefings, at http://www.erec.army.mil/das/board.htm . This site not only shows you what board members are looking at but also provides information on personal record preparation. In addition, solicit your BN, BDE, MACOM and/or Regimental CSM to go over your record in detail. Good luck on your next consideration.

4. What additional skill identifiers can a Soldier receive promotion points for?

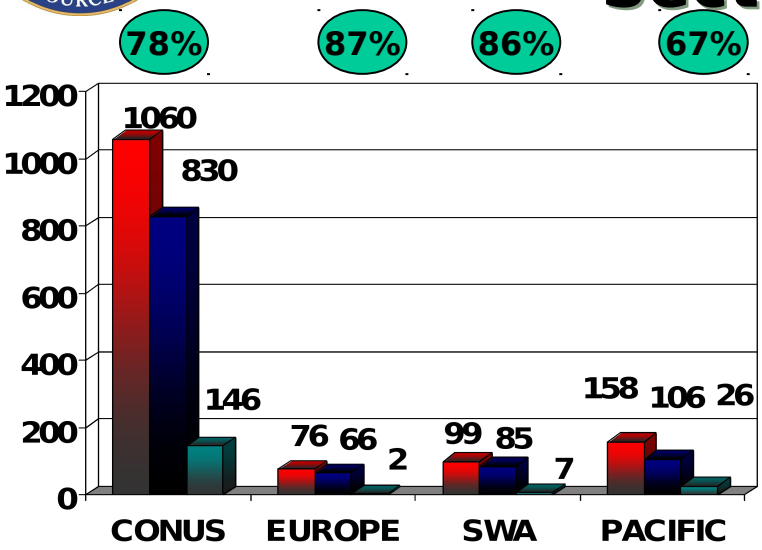
IAW AR 600-8-19, Chap 3, any ASI producing course is authorized for the awarding of promotion points as long as the following requirements are satisfied – (1) ASI must not be required to maintain or gain a particular PMOS.
(2) ASI must not have been a result of a mandatory reclassification.

5. Can we publish orders in the deployed location?

IAW AR 600-8-19, Para 3-8d, the

February 2005

Enlisted Promotions Section



78 % APPROVAL

TOTAL: 1393 REQUESTS
AS OF: 31 DEC 04

SUBMITTED
APPROVE
RWA

TOP FIVE LIST REASONS

- LATE SUBMISSION
- ERRONEOUS POINTS
- SIGNATURE DATE VS BD DATE
- LOST PACKETS
- ERRONEOUS PMOS

Automated DA Form 3355

SGM Tammy D. Coon

During 2004, our Junior promotions team processed 1,393 requests for Exception to Policy (ETP).

As you all may have heard, in an attempt to make our current semi-centralized promotion system less labor intensive, we developed an automated worksheet system. This new way of preparing the promotion worksheet will ensure that a Soldier's record is up to date from their first board appearance until their last. This new system will be fielded in March 05. The use of the current system will be authorized for 180 days, beginning the month

All measures must be utilized to convert over to the new system once available. New automated promotion worksheets will only need to be generated on those actions initiated after the commencement date, i.e. initial, reevaluation, and promotion point adjustment requests. The ability to access this system is necessary for promotion clerks at all levels, but is not limited solely to them. Commander's requests for access will be processed by this office and eventually be delegated to brigade level. Information needed on the request is name, SSN, AKO user id, unit, and DSN. Units that already have access to this system are encouraged to utilize it immediately, to at least familiarize.

Promotion of SFQC Graduates (SGT)

SGM Tammy D. Coon

MILPER Message 05-003, allows for automatic promotion to SGT upon successful completion of SFQC and

February 2005

Officer Promotions Section

Automated Promotions to 1LT & CW2 Program

MAJ Brian Jenkins

The 1LT/CW2 Automated Promotion System
which became effective 1 January 2004 continues to be a success story.

Promotion Approval Authorities have the ability to access all PSC codes. This enables BN CDRs with more than one PSC Code to access all of their UICs. After the PSC code has been selected, the system will display all UICs that contain officers eligible for promotion to 1LT/CW2 that fall under that particular PSC code.

We receive many calls from units stating that some of their UICs are missing. The system will only display those UICs that contain officers eligible for promotion to 1LT/CW2 60-90 days prior to their promotion eligibility date (PED) (i.e. on 1 February 2005, all officers with promotion eligibility dates through April 2005 will be displayed; on 1 March 2005, dates through May 2005 will be displayed).

If a UIC in your unit is not displayed, it means that there are no 2LT/WO1's eligible for promotion within the next 60 days.

Mr. Willis Paige

Please contact Mr. Paige with any questions you may have pertaining to date of rank adjustments for officers entering active duty that have served in

ROTC Lieutenants Commissioned in May or June

MAJ Brian Jenkins

Due to a continuous problem with the number of discrepancies found in TOPMIS pertaining to incorrect service data for many ROTC officers, we are providing the appropriate rules to clarify procedures and ensure your personnel sections are familiar with these rules.

ROTC graduates who are appointed in May or June and enter active duty in May or June of the year appointed, have a basic date of appointment (BDAOTT) and 2LT DOR the same as the United States Military Academy (USMA) main graduation date. Their 1LT promotion eligibility date (PED) will be 18 months from the USMA graduation date.

ROTC graduates who are appointed in May or June, but enter active duty in a month other than May or June of the year appointed, have a BDAOTT and 2LT DOR the same as the USMA graduation date. Their 1LT PED will be the earlier date of: 18 months from the date they entered active duty (DTEADC) or the day prior to the second anniversary of their BDAOTT.

Promotion to Captain in the Army Competitive Category

Currently, the below MILPER Message still applies concerning promotion pin-on point to LT